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Summer 2010 ACTION Newsletter

Message from the President...

The 56 Words That Changed the World!

by Robert Kettering



“We hold these truths to be self-evident., that all Men are created equal that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness – that to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just Powers from the Consent of the Governed.”

These words from our Declaration of Independence, written in 1776, changed the world. Until then, civilizations, such as England, believed that a person’s rights came from the king and therefore the king had absolute power over the individual. However our founders said no, because of their Biblical understanding, they declared that our freedom and rights come directly from God our Creator. And since freedom comes from Him, government cannot take that freedom way from the individual. The document makes it clear that we are created beings and life is an unalienable right that must be protected. Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness - I don’t believe it was an accident that our founders listed life first. Remember, they were dealing with abortion in those days also. (*There is nothing new under the sun. Eccl. 1:9*) However, they dealt with it Biblically as opposed to our generation, which since Roe v. Wade, has dealt with abortion unbiblically and as a result, millions of babies have been denied their right to life. Finally then, in order to secure these God-given rights, governments are instituted among men. These 56 words serve as the foundation that has produced the most free and prosperous nation the world has ever known. This July, as we celebrate our independence, let’s be reminded that the freedoms we enjoy come from God and not the state and if we are to remain free, we must understand this difference.

Have a great Independence Day!



“The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”
Edmund Burke

**Announcing:
Lancaster County ACTION's
Bus Trip to Glenn Beck's Restoring Honor Event
at the Lincoln Memorial**



Saturday, August 28, 2010

Lancaster County ACTION will be hosting a bus trip to attend Glenn Beck's Restoring Honor Event in Washington, D.C. The cost will be \$70.00 per adult and \$60.00 per child (10 and under). This price includes motor coach transportation and a buffet dinner. We will depart from the Worship Center at 6:15 am and return around 7:30 pm. A \$20.00 deposit will hold your reservation until July 15th. For more information or to call in your reservation, please call 717-569-0148 or fill out and mail the reservation form below.

Please make checks payable to: L.C.A. and mail to:
LCA, 5845 Clarkson Drive, East Petersburg, PA 17520

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Adults _____ @ \$70.00 + Children (under 10) _____ @ \$60.00 = _____

Come join Glenn, Sarah Palin, Jo Dee Messina and Marcus Luttrell at the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. on August 28, 2010 for the Restoring Honor Rally. This non-political, non-partisan event will recognize our First Amendment rights and honor the service members who fight to protect those freedoms.

Lancaster County ACTION Quarterly Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, July 10, 2010 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Leola Restaurant, 365 West Main St, Leola



Honoring Our Freedom

Guest Speaker: Major (Ret.) Tim Ryan

About Our Speaker

Timothy J. Ryan, retired from the active duty component of the United States Army on November 30, 2009 as a Major, Judge Advocate General's branch. He served twenty years in various units throughout the world. Tim began his career in the Army's elite Special Forces Group, earning his Green Beret at twenty years old and spent a total of six years as a non-commissioned officer on two operational A-Detachments. Tim served during Desert Storm and lived with a Kurdish freedom fighting group near Dahuk, Iraq, during this deployment.

Tim was accepted in the Army's Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia, and graduated on the Commandant's List. Immediately upon successfully completing Ranger School, Tim was assigned to the Tenth Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York, as an Infantry officer and deployed with his unit to Mogadishu, Somalia, in August 1993. While there, Tim's unit was engaged in constant battle over a six-month period of time: culminating in a major fight to rescue trapped Ranger and Delta Force commandos as depicted in the movie "Blackhawk Down."

Upon returning home from Somalia, Tim left the service to attend law school and re-joined the Army immediately upon graduating. Tim deployed to Korea for a one-year tour along the demilitarized zone separating North and South Korea and again deployed to Iraq in 2005 where he served his tour in Baghdad as a Rule of Law attorney assisting in the rebuilding of that country. In the United States, Tim was a contract and fiscal law trial lawyer and a Special Assistant United States Attorney practicing in the Eastern District of Virginia.

Upon retiring in November, Tim accepted a job as a contract and fiscal law attorney at the Defense Distribution Center in New Cumberland, Pennsylvania. Tim also operates a family-owned farm in Lancaster County providing corn, hay, and alfalfa to other local farmers and is an instructor for ESI International (affiliated with the George Washington University), teaching graduate-level master's certificate courses on contract administration. Tim is a Republican Committeeman for Rapho Township, and a member of his parish council.

Tim grew up in Lebanon, Pennsylvania, and dreamed of moving back to this area to raise his family in a community that shares his core values. He is married to Dr. Gayle Ryan, MD. They have been blessed with three wonderful children who are enrolled in the Manheim Central Public School system.

Tim is a member in good standing with the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, the Pennsylvania bar, and the North Carolina Supreme Court. His military awards include the Bronze Star for Valor, the Bronze Star for Meritorious Service, Two Meritorious Service Medals, Five Army Commendation Medals, Two Army Achievement Medals, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Airborne Badge, the Special Forces Underwater Operations Badge, the Ranger Tab, and the Special Forces Tab.

Please reserve your seat at the quarterly breakfast by calling the ACTION office (717-569-0148) by Wednesday, July 7, 2010. The cost is \$11.00 per person. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged.

The Manhattan Declaration: A Call of Christian Conscience

Christians are heirs of a 2,000 year tradition of proclaiming God's Word, seeking justice in our societies, resisting tyranny, and reaching out with compassion to the poor, oppressed, and suffering.

While fully acknowledging the imperfections and shortcomings of Christian institutions and communities in all ages, we claim the heritage of those Christians who defended innocent life by rescuing discarded babies from trash heaps in Roman cities and publicly denouncing the Empire's sanctioning of infanticide. We remember with reverence those ... who died bravely in the coliseums rather than deny their Lord...

Like those who have gone before us in the faith, Christians today are called to proclaim the Gospel of costly grace, to protect the intrinsic dignity of the human person, and to stand for the common good...

Declaration

We, as Orthodox, Catholic, and Evangelical Christians, have gathered, beginning in New York on September 28, 2009, to make the following declaration, which we sign as individuals... We act together in obedience to the one true God, the triune God of holiness and love, who has laid total claim on our lives and by that claim calls us with believers in all ages and all nations to seek and defend the good of all who bear his image. We set forth this declaration in light of the truth that is grounded in Holy Scripture...

Because the sanctity of human life, the dignity of marriage as a union of husband and wife, and the freedom of conscience and religion are foundational principles of justice and the common good, we are compelled by our Christian faith to speak and act in their defense. In this declaration we affirm: 1) the profound, inherent, and equal dignity of every human being as a creature fashioned in the very image of God, possessing inherent rights of equal dignity and life; 2) marriage as a conjugal union of man and woman, ordained by God from the creation, and historically understood by believers and non-believers alike, to be the most basic institution in society, and; 3) religious liberty, which is grounded in the character of God, the example of Christ, and the inherent freedom and dignity of human beings created in the divine image...

Life

"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." (Genesis 1:27)

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full." (John 10:10)

Although public sentiment has moved in a pro-life direction, we note with sadness that pro-abortion ideology prevails today in our government. The present administration is led and staffed by those who want to make abortions legal at any stage of fetal development,

and who want to provide abortions at taxpayer expense...

Marriage

"The man said, 'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called woman, for she was taken out of man.' For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united with his wife, and they will become one flesh." (Genesis 2:23-24)

"This is a profound mystery... I am talking about Christ and the Church. However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband." (Ephesians 5:32-33)

In Scripture, the creation of man and woman, and their one-flesh union as husband and wife, is the crowning achievement of God's creation. In the transmission of life and the nurturing of children, men and women joined as spouses are given the great honor of being partners with God Himself. Marriage then, is the first institution of human society - indeed it is the institution on which all other human institutions have their foundation.

And so it is out of love (not "animus") and prudent concern for the common good (not "prejudice"), that we pledge to labor ceaselessly to preserve the legal definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman...

Religious Liberty

"The Spirit of the Sovereign LORD is on me, because the LORD has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners." (Isaiah 61:1)

"Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's." (Matthew 22:21)

The nature of religious liberty is grounded in the character of God Himself, the God who is most fully known in the life and work of Jesus Christ... Christians confess that God alone is Lord of the conscience. Immunity from religious coercion is the cornerstone of an unconstrained conscience...

Because we honor justice and the common good, we will not comply with any edict that purports to compel our institutions to participate in abortions, embryo-destructive research, assisted suicide and euthanasia, or any other anti-life act; nor will we bend to any rule purporting to force us to bless immoral sexual partnerships, treat them as marriages or the equivalent, or refrain from proclaiming the truth, as we know it, about morality and immorality and marriage and the family. We will fully and ungrudgingly render to Caesar what is Caesar's. But under no circumstances will we render to Caesar what is God's.

You Can Make a Difference by Paul Castellitto

I have been blessed to be involved with Lancaster County ACTION for many years. I am presently serving on the Board of Directors and my specific responsibility is Lancaster County School District Coordinator. There are many exciting ways to serve in ACTION and God is willing to use any of us if we are willing to be used. One of our most important needs at this time is that we need individual Christians who are willing to serve in their specific school district as school district coordinators.

The school district coordinator serves a vital role as he/she helps to build the grassroots level of our organization.

The school district coordinator does this building by attending our quarterly breakfasts and annual banquet and inviting like-minded believers to these important functions. Other responsibilities include distributing voter guides to local businesses and churches, organizing a prayer meeting in your area and helping get Christian candidates get elected in your area also.

I would love to share more information with you if you are interested in serving as a school district coordinator. Please call me at 717-626-9211 or email me at pakcastellitto@dejazzd.com

A Message from the Treasurer - Is Your Membership Current?

Please take a moment to make certain that your membership is current, by looking at the mailing label on this newsletter to see if your dues are up-to-date. The number "2010" should appear in the parenthesis on the label. If it does not, please fill out the form below and mail to:

Lancaster County ACTION, Office of the Treasurer, 1939 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603

clip and send

I would like to begin/renew (\$20.00 per household) my membership in Lancaster County ACTION.

I would like to begin/renew my membership in LCA's Governors Club (\$250.00).

I would like to begin/renew my membership in LCA's Presidents Club (\$500.00).

(Please make check payable to **Lancaster County ACTION**.)

I'd like to volunteer for the following ACTION Committee(s):

- Church Contact/Prayer Fund Raising Legislative Issues Newsletter School District Coordinator
- Education Growth/Membership Library Quarterly Breakfast Voter Guides

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Township: _____ Polling Place: _____

E-mail address: _____

Please clip and return to Lancaster County ACTION, 1939 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster, PA 17603. Thank you!

Tax Cuts Actually Increase Tax Revenue

The IRS just released income tax data for 2006, and, as the Wall Street Journal pointed out, it turns out that cutting taxes does increase tax payments. In fact, as the Journal points out, the 2003 tax cuts "caused what may be the biggest increase in tax payments by the rich in American history." The top 10 percent of income earners paid 71 percent of taxes. In fact, the top 50 percent paid 97.1 percent of the taxes. Interestingly, U.S. millionaires increased from 181,000 to 354,000 just three years after the tax cuts. This proves that when taxes are lowered, the economy grows and with tax rates lower, individuals were less interested in finding tax shelters, meaning tax payments actually increased. This should put to rest the notion that the "rich" don't pay their fair share. Taxes paid by millionaires increased to \$274 billion in 2006 from \$136 billion in 2003, all under Republican government.

Stimulus Jobs Come at Incredible Cost

According to the federal government's Recovery.org website, \$16 billion in stimulus bill contracts have "saved or created" 30,000 jobs. This means that for every \$533,000 spent, one job was created. The White House has tried to spin the numbers saying that they represent the "positive" results of the stimulus plan. I don't think the American people would consider spending ten times the median income to save a single job a success. Even worse, this is coming with borrowed money that will eventually have to be paid back with interest. Additionally, the Administration is once again hiding behind its bogus "saved or created" label. It is economically dubious to claim that the stimulus legislation is "saving" a defined amount of jobs.

In God We Trust: A Brief History

In the early days of the Civil War, Treasury Secretary Salmon P. Chase instructed the director of the U.S. mint at Philadelphia to prepare a motto for the nation's coins:

"Dear Sir," his memo began: "No nation can be strong except in the strength of God, or safe except in His defense. The trust of our people in God should be declared on national coins."

After a few options were considered, Chase settled on IN GOD WE TRUST; Congress passed the necessary legislation, and the motto first appeared on the 1864 two-cent coin.

IN GOD WE TRUST has been in continuous use on the penny since 1909, and on the dime coin since 1916.

In fact, since 1938, all United States coins have borne the inscription.

(When the motto was left off of a new double-eagle gold coin in 1907, the public's outcry led Congress to order it restored.)

In 1956, the Congress and President Eisenhower agreed to declare IN GOD WE TRUST the "national motto of the United States."

The motto then began to appear on paper money also.

**information provided by Coral Ridge Ministries Media

